

who have made American history, separated forever.

COL. CAMERON SPEAKS.
Lee Camp was called to order shortly after 8 o'clock by Commander Smith, editor of the Central Presbyterian, of this city, and a member of General Stonewall Jackson's staff. The hall was crowded to its doors, with not a vacant seat in the building. A splendid company of members of A. P. Hill Camp, Petersburg, was present. Former Governor Hugo Tyler, of Bedford; William E. Cameron, of Petersburg; and Charles T. O'Ferrall, were among the first to arrive. While the routine business was being disposed of, General Fitzhugh Lee called and escorted to the chairs reserved for the specially invited guests, the ex-Governors and the Governor. Governor Montague came in last of the distinguished company. He took the remaining vacant seat.

The routine of a camp meeting was quickly transacted, and Commander Smith happily introduced Colonel Cameron, who on the part of the donors of the hall, had been asked to make a presentation to it to the camp.

After portraying in most beautiful language the Sunny South, as it was before the war—a country to be proud of, a blessed country, to live in, a country worth dying for, Colonel Cameron came to that troublesome time just preceding the Civil War.

Concerning it, he said:
"Such a time as that, so reared, so competent to know their rights, so trained in political perception, so loving peace and yet so brave, there came a crisis which forced them to a choice between two impatible evils."

If they were to claim to constitutional protection of their property and domestic institutions, allowed the executive and legislative departments of the United States to nullify, control, and guarantee, and submitted that legislatures of Northern States should treat as empty words the decisions of the Supreme Court, they would but abandon their natural rights, and their country and be thereafter dependent upon the caprice of a sectional majority.

Experience had taught them that every concession made to fanaticism but whetted the appetite for more. Within ten years the cry of the ruling faction had changed from "compromise" to "surrender."

THE ISSUES INVOLVED.

The ultimate fate of the weaker section, if a policy of submission should be accepted, was plain as the handwriting on the wall at the feast of Belshazzar. Not slavery alone was involved but the rights of the weaker section, and all the rights of the States which that involved, and under a government controlled and administered by the exponents of a higher law, the rights of the weaker section in denial of their rights, antagonism to their interests, confiscation of their property, would be the wishful mercy and elastic conscience of a party which had canonized John Brown as a hero, and which had decided the law according to the law, and had denounced the Constitution as "a league with Satan and a covenant with hell." In that road lay no future for the country, no satisfaction, reason to their convictions, humiliation and ultimate ruin.

The alternative was to revert to the theory and practice of their Revolutionary fathers—to insist that the consent of the governed was an essential to the legitimacy of any establishment, to reaffirm the doctrine of Franklin and Adams and Jay, of the rights of the States to liberty and withdrawal from a government which had ceased for them to subserve the purpose for which formed; to commit no aggressions, to make no demands outside of their own rights, but to assert in solemn form the reserved rights of every party to a violated contract—the right to cease membership in a union which was no longer administered by the letter or spirit of the Constitution, and to exercise the right of secession, and to erect within their own borders a structure adapted to their needs, consistent with their political views and preservative of their domestic institutions.

ACTION JUSTIFIED.

Thus, one by one, with deliberation and dignity, the States of that vanished country decided. They proclaimed their right of secession, and the consent of the governed their people purposes, justified their action in almost the very language which the colonies addressed to Great Britain in 1776, and then assembled at Montgomery Place, in the town of State upon the sea of experiment.

The answer (for the episode of Fort Sumter has no significance in determining the question of overt aggression) was a declaration of independence, and a commitment of a purpose to enforce by force of arms the submission of the seceding States to the bonds of Union and the authority of the government at Washington.

HEROIC DEEDS.

Then came the splendor of heroic deeds, the valor, the opposing fatal. The pathetic spectacle of transcendent genius and almost superhuman valor fighting, like Siegmund, against the stars in their courses! The tender beauty of woman's ministrations and brave sweet faces which masked their aching hearts! The uplifting of souls to self-oblivion! The delirium of the headlong charge! The superb record of constancy, loyalty and endurance! The rain and snow's luster to those bloody annals! The flickering brilliance—the sunset of the Confederacy—of the last essays of desperate courage to avert the inevitable.

And then, the darkness, the bayonet as George the Third had exercised them. HEROIC DEEDS.

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The speaker then paid a beautiful tribute to the ragged, war-worn veterans of the Confederacy. Continuing, he told how with indomitable spirit they have built a new industrial and political



Not a poor shoe in our stock—we won't handle them.

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South, and how the rising generation has responded to the call to arms in defense of the Union.

"And, but now," he said, "in supreme evidence that we had a new bond of union to be one of fellowship, Virginia has rendered, for a place in the Capitol at Washington, a statue of her best beloved son, the flower of Southern chivalry, the lion of the Confederacy, Robert Lee."

"And, little they know who dream that we would offer up his noble effigy as the pledge of a half-hearted allegiance! And as little those who think that we would have him there on a pedestal of legal and constitutional authority—no, any other terms than those of grateful welcome to the American Hall of Fame to the great captain of Christian gentlemen, whose name is the synonym of genius, valor and virtue."

"And now, comrades of Lee Camp," he continued, "it is my privilege to tender to your pious custody, the counterfeited presentment of a real presence well worthy to join yonder goodly company of national warriors."

He was a man in whose character and career the highest attributes of true manhood were illustrated. As a soldier, he was brave as the bravest; loyal to the core, faithful to the end.

"A Virginian, he loved his State with all the force of an ardent and earnest nature."

"He came of Swedish stock—a sturdy, martial breed of Norsemen, which has preserved its national identity as a Moslem, Muscovite, and Gaul, through centuries of bloody battle."

When war came, he did not baffle his lineage, but responded to the first call of the State upon her sons, in full conviction of her sovereign claim upon him and of the justice of her cause.

He was a graduate of that school at Lexington which a Federal general styled "The Military Nursery of the South," and he had served as captain of volunteers in the Mexican war.

His SERVICES.

He entered the Confederate service as colonel of the Seventh Virginia Infantry, but early in 1862 was given command of the brigade formerly A. P. Hill's, and was commended for gallantry and efficiency at Second Manassas, in the seven-day campaign around Richmond, at Second Manassas, and at Sharpsburg. In 1863 his brigade was assigned to the division of Pickett, and was in the front line of the memorable assault at Gettysburg. Leading his men against the belching butler on Cemetery Hill, he shined the glory of that brilliant charge with Armstrong, Garnett and Hunton. Felled by a shot on the crest of that wave of heroism, which has been called "The High Tide of the Confederacy," his life was long despaired of, and he was never able to take the field again.

His career subsequent to the war was honorable and useful. His positive character and robust intellect caused speedy recognition of his capacity for leadership in the civil arena.

In the consolidation of the conservative political and social elements, which became essential to the safety of the State as a result of negro suffrage and other revolutionary features of reconstruction, he came prominently before the public as a man of firm convictions, inflexible purpose, strong in debate and wise in council. Nor was it long ere Virginia honored him with a position of trust commensurate with his talents and deserts.

He entered the Governor's office in 1874, and administered his duties with a fidelity and ability which sustained the best traditions of the Commonwealth, and earned for him the respect of every class of his constituents.

Thereafter he never left the shades of private life. He survived to see his beloved State well started on a new era of prosperity and happiness, and he died in 1895, leaving a name as free from stain as the skies that bend in Indian summer above his native mountains.

Such, in pregnant brevity, is the life record of the gallant officer, honest gentleman, patriotic citizen, whose memory we are here to-night to honor and perpetuate.

His epitaph might be written as of one "who never shirked a duty, evaded an obligation, paltered with the truth, quailed before a danger, nor betrayed a trust."

Commander, through you, I now give to the guardianship of Lee Camp the portrait of General James L. Kemper.

Governor O'Ferrall's Acceptance.

Commander Smith gracefully presented Colonel O'Ferrall, who had been invited by the camp to receive the picture.

Colonel O'Ferrall evoked the enthusiastic applause when his tall and distinguished looking figure moved on the platform. He is probably the most distinguished looking man in Virginia today and well-to-do, peerless among Virginians as a speaker.

Colonel O'Ferrall traced briefly the part General Kemper played in the early days of the war, how by bravery he was rapidly promoted. He followed him to the battle of Gettysburg, where General Kemper was terribly wounded, and the speaker spoke of that great battle and discussed it ably. He asked the question who was responsible for that he was not supported at Gettysburg, but declared he would not answer it, as it was not so good now and might do harm.

He was asked—bereaved mothers, widowed wives and orphaned children, but it mattered not so much now. It takes no honor or beauty from the chapter of the Confederate soldier who on that day, nor from General Lee.

SOUTH WOULD HAVE WON.

He expressed the belief that had the South

won at Gettysburg the North would have been so discouraged and the South so stimulated that the bird of victory would have perched on the Southern standard. At any rate, if not victory the South would have gotten a recognition of her rights.

Passing from a sketch of General Kemper, Colonel O'Ferrall took up a review of his character and his official acts as Governor, which Colonel Cameron had touched on but slightly. The speaker paid the highest tribute to the strength and his honesty of character. He showed that he was no demagogue, no time server, no man to be blown hither and thither by every wave of public opinion, but first asked:

"Was it right?"

The speaker referred to an instance where he vetoed a bill prepared to relieve the city of Petersburg from the possibility of negro officials, and received a great cry of disapproval. But he knew the law would have been in violation of the Constitution, and he would not shrink the responsibility assumed when he took the oath to support the Constitution.

Colonel O'Ferrall closed with another incident, among the many which he had in mind, and he would not shrink the responsibility assumed when he took the oath to support the Constitution.

General Lee was introduced by Commander Smith.

Dr. Smith was most happy in presenting General Lee. He said we had a great many Governors, often of good name, but our homes—a remark which was greeted with laughter, and the ladies seemed particularly pleased.

But the humor of the evening was, he said, that he should be introducing Governor of Virginia, a Richmond and Virginia audience. It was a joke, for example, that he should be introducing Fitz Lee.

General Lee was enthusiastically called for, and he came forward.

This most popular of all Virginians made one of the best addresses of his life. He was the cause of Dr. Smith's getting the greatest ovation of the evening, and as proud as any Virginian has ever received. He said that he could not reply to what Colonel Cameron had said, that he should be introducing Fitz Lee.

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The funeral will be this morning at 11 o'clock from the home, in charge of Undertaker Morrisette, and the interment will be in Maury Cemetery.

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Mr. B. R. Brown, cashier of the Bank of Manchester, took an active part in the organization, and will receive any contributions that may be sent.

The ladies of the mission will be in the Manchester bank every day between the hours of 10 and 5 to receive anything that may be sent them for the work of the mission.

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